

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, independent claims 1 and 11 are amended, and new claims 13-22 are presented. No new matter is presented in any of the foregoing and, accordingly, approval and entry of the amended and new claims are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3 and 6-22 are pending and under consideration.

STATEMENT ON SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW

An Interview was conducted between the Examiner and the Applicant's representative on October 13, 2004. Applicant thanks the Examiner for the opportunity to conduct the interview.

During the interview aspects of the present invention that patentably distinguish over the cited art were discussed including features of the antenna and features related to detachable connection. The Examiner suggested claim amendments or new claims that recited features relating to detachability of the antenna, methods of attachment, and an antenna within an upper housing area as areas that appear to distinguish over the cited art.

Applicants have amended claims 1 and 11, and presented new claims 13-22 as suggested by the Examiner.

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Independent claim 1 is amended herein to recite that an input device includes an antenna arranged at an upper surface inside a housing including "a case, and a detachable upper cover, wherein said antenna is arranged inside said detachable upper cover at an uppermost portion of the housing . . . wherein said antenna is detachably connected to said communicating part by a connector and detachable from the case along with a detached upper cover." (See, for example, FIG. 9).

Independent claim 11 is amended herein to recite a wireless input device including "a detachable upper cover that is connectable to the case to form an inside volume; and an antenna, which is located at an uppermost portion of the inside volume . . . and detachable from the case along with a detached upper cover." (See, for example, FIG. 9).

No new matter is presented in any of the foregoing and, accordingly, approval and entry of the amended and new claims are respectfully requested.

ITEM 2: REJECTION OF INDEPENDENT CLAIM 1 (AND DEPENDENT CLAIMS 2-3 AND 6) UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(e) AS BEING ANTICIPATED BY SCHNEIDER ET AL. (U.S.P. 6,356,243)

The Examiner rejects independent claim 1, and dependent claims 2-3 and 6, as anticipated by Schneider. (Action at pages 2-3).

Independent claim 1, as amended, recites an input device including an antenna arranged at an upper surface inside a housing including "a detachable upper cover, wherein said antenna is arranged inside said detachable upper cover. . . (and). . . wherein said antenna is detachably connected to said communicating part by a connector and detachable from the case along with a detached upper cover." (See, for example, FIG. 9).

As discussed during the interview, Schneider does not teach or suggest a detachable cover wherein the antenna is arranged inside the detachable cover and that the antenna is further "detachable from the case along with a detached upper cover."

Schneider only teaches (col. 5, lines 53-55) that a "portion of the antenna system 240b(1), 240b(2) (generally 240b) does not reside on the electronic circuit board 240."

Further, dependent claims recite features not taught by Schneider. For example, dependent claim 3 recites that the antenna may be formed by "printing a conductor on the upper surface inside said housing."

The Examiner contends that Schneider teaches "the first portion may be etched on a printed circuit board." (Action at page 3).

Applicant submits that Schneider does not teach any printing of a conductor on an upper surface inside a housing.

Conclusion

Since features of independent claim 1, as amended, and dependent claims 2-3, are not taught by Schneider the rejection should be withdrawn and the claims allowed.

ITEM 2: REJECTION OF INDEPENDENT CLAIM 11 (AND DEPENDENT CLAIMS 12-13 UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(e) AS BEING ANTICIPATED BY SCHNEIDER

The Examiner rejects independent claims 11, and dependent claims 12-13, as anticipated by Schneider. (Action at pages 4-5).

Independent claim 11, as amended recites "a detachable upper cover that is connectable to the case to form an inside volume; and an antenna . . . detachable from the case along with a detached upper cover."

As discussed during the interview, Schneider does not teach or suggest an antenna "detachable from the case along with a detached upper cover."

Conclusion

Since features of independent claim 11, as amended, and dependent claims 12-13, are

not taught by Schneider the rejection should be withdrawn and the claims allowed.

ITEMS 5-6: REJECTION OF CLAIMS 7-10 UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a) OVER SCHNEIDER

The Examiner rejects dependent claims 7-10 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Schneider. (Action at pages 5-6).

Dependent claims 7-10 recite that an input device that transmits information in accordance with an "Amplitude Shift Keying method," "a Frequency Shift Keying method," "a Phase Shift Keying method," and "a Spread Spectrum Communication method," respectively.

The Action concedes that Schneider does not teach these methods. (Action at page 5). Nevertheless, the Examiner contends that that Schneider "must use one of the transmitting methods and one is motivated to use one or the other based on environment of operation. . ." (Action at page 5).

As set forth in MPEP §2143.03:

. . . (i)t is never appropriate to rely solely on "common knowledge" in the art without evidentiary support in the record, as the principal evidence upon which a rejection was based.

Applicant respectfully submits that while Schneider uses some method, and *arguendo* may use one of the methods recited separately by dependent claims 7-10, the Examiner provides no support that Schneider teaches each of the methods recited separately by dependent claims 7-10, or that it is obvious to use each of the methods.

Conclusion

Since *prima facie* obviousness is not established, the rejection of claims 7-10 should be withdrawn and claims 7-10 allowed.

NEW CLAIMS

New claims 14-22 present no new matter and are provided to afford a varying scope of protection.

New dependent claims 14, 17, and 22 recite that a case is attachable to the upper cover with a "screw." (See, for example, FIG 9).

New dependent claims 15, 18 and 16,19 recite the antenna can be arranged so as to surround "a center portion of the upper cover" or "a depressible keytop in the upper cover,"

respectively. (See, for example, FIGs. 9 and 10)

New independent claim 20 recites a wireless input device including a detachable upper cover "wherein the detachable upper cover includes an antenna to wirelessly transmit data, the antenna arranged within an inner volume of the detachable upper cover or formed on a surface of the detachable upper cover." (See, for example FIG. 11 b).

New dependent claim 21 recites that "a first detachable upper cover having an antenna arranged so as to surround a center portion of the upper cover is swappable with a second detachable upper cover having an antenna arranged so as to surround a depressible keytop in the upper cover." (See, for example, FIGs. 9 and 10).

These, and other, features of claims 21-30 patentably distinguish over the cited art, and they are submitted to be allowable for

CONCLUSION

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: November 1, 2004

By: Paul W. Bobowiec
Paul W. Bobowiec
Registration No. 47,431

1201 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501